

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 22-53 are in the application of which claims 22-26 and newly added claims 51-53 are under active examination as directed to elected subject matter. It is counsel's understanding that claims 27-50 have been withdrawn from consideration although this is not specifically indicated on page 1 of the Official Action.

The claims have been amended in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which applicants regard as their invention and to address the claim clarity issues raised on page 2 of the Official Action. In addition, claim 22 has been amended and directed to methods of functionally stimulating the peripheral receptor CB1 of cannabinoids, this functional stimulation being described throughout the disclosure including pages 11-13, especially page 13, lines 19-23. Accordingly, no new matter is involved. In addition, minor claim informalities and formatting errors have been corrected.

New independent claim 52 excludes the compounds mentioned by the examiner on page 3 of the Official Action in his discussion of the Koda et al reference. New claims 51 and 53 specify various acids for Z' and are based on the listing in original claim 21.

The Official Action indicates that claims 24-25 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. While applicants appreciate the examiner's favorable comments, they also submit that the claims as above amended are also directed to allowable subject matter.

Claims 22, 23 and 26 are rejected as allegedly being anticipated by the disclosures of any one of Koda et al, EP 0613875, Morre et al, and Janusz et al (both Journal articles). None of these documents describe or suggest a method of functionally stimulating the peripheral receptor CB1 of cannabinoids by administering a compound of formula (I) of this application. In particular, Koda et al does not describe any activity of

the compounds there disclosed relative to the cannabinoid receptor CB1. While the compounds described in this document incidentally include a minor number of compounds falling within general formula (I), related primarily R₁ and Y being H or to O-alkyl and H, respectively, the only pertinent part of this citation is the incidental disclosure of treating asthma as a targeted pathology. Indeed, this document describes a number of otherwise disassociated pathologies. There is no disclosure of functionally stimulating the peripheral receptor CB1 of cannabinoids employing the compounds falling within general formula (I) of claim 22 as above amended. Morre et al and Janusz et al are even less relevant and again they contain no disclosure of effects on the cannabinoid receptor.

For the above reasons it is respectfully submitted that claims 22-26 and 51-53 are allowable. Reconsideration and favorable action is solicited.

Should the examiner require further information or documents, please contact the undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

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